

Message Text

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14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS STATE 174857

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SENV, NL, US

SUBJECT: ENDANGERED SPECIES

REF: THE HAGUE 3521

1. AN EXAMINATION OF THE "MZURI DRUMBEAT" (VOLUME 3, NUMBER 1, SPRING 1976) REVEALS THAT ONE ADVERTISEMENT FOR HUNTING DOES INDEED MAKE REFERENCE TO ONE ENDANGERED SPECIES--THE GHORAL--ON THE "OFFICIAL USA" LIST OF ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES. NO OTHER FULL SPECIES MENTIONED IN VARIOUS HUNTING OR TAXIDERMY ADVERTISEMENTS PRESENTLY APPEAR ON THE OFFICIAL USA LIST. CERTAIN "SUBSPECIES" OF OTHER MENTIONED SPECIES--FOR EXAMPLE, IBEX URIAL, ARGALI, CHAMOIS, AND BROWN BEAR--ARE LISTED AS ENDANGERED, BUT IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THESE SUBSPECIES ACTUALLY ARE HUNTED.

2. IN ANY CASE, UNDER EXISTING US LAW SUCH ADVERTISEMENTS ARE NOT ILLEGAL IN THEMSELVES, NOR DO THEY CONSTITUTE THREAT TO THE SPECIES FROM AMERICAN HUNTERS. BY LAW, A UNCLASSIFIED

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PERSON CANNOT IMPORT INTO THE USA ANY ENDANGERED SPECIES,

NOR ANY PART THEREOF NOR ANY PRODUCT THEREFROM, WITHOUT A SPECIAL PERMIT. NO PERMIT CAN BE ISSUED FOR THE IMPORTATION OF HUNTING TROPHIES FROM ENDANGERED SPECIES, AND THEREFORE FEW HUNTERS WOULD WASTE THEIR TIME IN HUNTING THESE ANIMALS.

3. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS USG POLICY TO DISCOURAGE ANY SUCH ADVERTISEMENT, AND TO INFORM THE COMMERCIAL BUSINESSES INVOLVED THAT THEY ARE PERHAPS MISLEADING THEIR PROSPECTIVE CLIENTS. ACCORDINGLY, WE APPRECIATE DOETS ADVISING US OF THIS MATTER, AND SUGGEST EMBASSY CONVEY ABOVE INFORMATION TO HIM. KISSINGER

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